Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1227

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 LISBON 3577

FOR EUR/WE ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, OVIP, PO, US (MONDALE, WALTER F.)
SUBJ: TALKING POINTS FOR VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE

REF: FOURIER/MELTON TELECON OF 5/4/77

1. FOLLOWING ARE POINTS LIKELY TO BE RAISED, OR WHICH VICE PRESIDENT MAY WISH TO RAISE, DURING MEETINGS WITH PORTUGUESE DURING VISIT.

2. PRESIDENT EANES:
(A) POINTS LIKELY TO BE RAISED:
-- PORTUGAL IS CURRENTLY IN THE PROCESS OF CONSOLIDATING THE DEMOCRATIC GAINS OF THE 1974 REVOLUTION. DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS ARE IN PLACE AND FUNCTIONING, PERHAPS WITHOUT THE DESIRED DEGREE OF EFFICIENCY.
-- DESPITE THEIR TOO FREQUENT SQUABBLING, THE DEMOCRATIC PARTIES ARE COOPERATING IN THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY TO ISOLATE THE COMMUNISTS. THE LATTER, HOWEVER, REMAIN EXTREMELY DANGEROUS AND WILL OPPOSE DEMOCRATIC CONSOLIDATION EVEN TO THE EXTENT OF TRYING TO PROVOKE A RIGHTIST DICTATORSHIP. THEY WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO SUCCEED.
-- POST REVOLUTIONARY POLITICAL INSTABILITY CAUSED SERIOUS ECONOMIC PROBLEMS WHICH ARE ONLY NOW IMPROVING. U.S. AND EUROPEAN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE HAS KEPT THE
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ECONOMY AFLOAT SO FAR AND REMAINS ESSENTIAL TO POLITICAL STABILITY.
-- WHAT IS THE U.S. INTERPRETATION OF THE REPORTED CONTINUING HEAVY ALLOCATION OF SOVIET RESOURCES TO OFFENSIVE WEAPONRY?
-- PORTUGAL SUPPORTS THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S FORWARD POSITION ON HUMAN RIGHTS. PORTUGAL IS EAGER TO COOPERATE, AND WOULD BE INTERESTED IN U.S. VIEWS ON THE FORTHCOMING

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BELGRADE CONFERENCE.
-- PORTUGUESE PARTICIPATION IN NATO WAS LONG LIMITED BY ITS COLONIAL WARS IN AFRICA, DURING WHICH CAPABILITIES OF PORTUGAL'S ARMED FORCES FELL BELOW THOSE OF ITS NATO PARTNERS. PORTUGAL HAS DRASTICALLY REDUCED ITS ARMED FORCES, IS REORGANIZING THEM AND MOVING TOWARD AN EXPANDED NATO ROLE THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BRIGADE INTEGRATED INTO THE NATO COMMAND STRUCTURE. THE PROMPT MODERNIZATION AND REEQUIPMENT OF THE ARMED FORCES IS A HIGH PRIORITY; IT IS ESSENTIAL TO RE-PROFESSIONALIZATION AND KEEPING THE SOLDIERS IN THE BARRACKS.
(B) POINTS TO RAISE:
-- A GENERAL QUESTION ON THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN PORTUGAL WOULD BE A GOOD OPENER.
-- PORTUGAL'S SUCCESS IN ESTABLISHING FUNCTIONING DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS IS AN EXAMPLE FOR ALL.
-- THE PORTUGUESE RECORD IN RESTORING HUMAN RIGHTS IS SIMILARLY EXEMPLARY; PORTUGUESE COLLABORATION IN BELGRADE AND ELSEWHERE WILL BE WELCOME.
-- THE UNITED STATES WELCOME AN EXPANDED PORTUGUESE NATO ROLE AND WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT EH BRIGADE AND THE OVERALL FORCE MODERNIZATION PROGRAM.

3. PRIME MINISTER SOARES:
(A) POINTS LIKELY TO BE RAISED:
-- CONCLUSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LOAN PROGRAM IS ESSENTIAL TO THE CONSOLIDATION OF DEMOCRACY IN PORTUGAL.
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-- PORTUGUESE AUTHORITIES ARE CLOSELY FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTHERN EUROPE, ESPECIALLY EVENTS IN FRANCE, ITALY, AND SPAIN. SOCIALIST PARTIES IN ALL THREE COUNTRIES ARE WORKING TO STRENGTHEN DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS.
-- DESPITE THEIR SQUABBLES WITH THE GOVERNMENT, THE OTHER DEMOCRATIC PARTIES ARE COOPERATING WITH THE SOCIALISTS IN THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY; THE GOVERNMENT'S AUTHORITY IS UNIMPAIRED. THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE TO THE SOCIALISTS.
-- THE GOP IS CONCERNED ABOUT EXPANDING SOVIET INFLUENCE IN AFRICA. RECENT U.S. INITIATIVES ON SOUTHERN AFRICA ARE POSITIVE. RECOGNITION OF THE LUANDA GOVERNMENT AND A U.S. DIPLOMATIC PRESENCE IN ANGOLA WOULD HELP.
-- THE CONTINUED USG USE OF THE AZORES FACILITIES IS NOT AT ISSUE IN THE FORTHCOMING BASE NEGOTIATIONS. (SOARES IS UNLIKELY TO RAISE SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES ON NEGOTIATIONS.)
(B) POINTS TO RAISE:
-- THE USG COMMITMENT TO THE LOAN IS FIRM.

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IF THE CURRENT FORMULA PROVES UNWORKABLE,
ANOTHER MUST BE FOUND. WE ARE FLEXIBLE.
-- WE APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS BOTH AS PRIME MINISTER
AND LEADER WITHIN THE SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL AS A FORCE
FOR DEMOCRACY AND MODERATION.
-- BY VIRTUE OF ITS EXCELLENT STANDING AMONG THE
THIRD WORLD, AND AFRICAN NATIONS IN PARTICULAR,
PORTUGAL IS LISTENED TO. PORTUGUESE SUPPORT OF
CURRENT U.S. AFRICAN INITIATIVES WILL BE MOST HELPFUL.
-- THE PORTUGUESE HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD IS SECOND TO
NONE.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 LISBON 3577

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4. CARDINAL PATRIARCH: (NOTE: CARDINAL MEDEIROS
OF BOSTON IS VISITING PORTUGAL TO PRESIDE
OVER THE SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FATIMA
APPARITIONS ON MAY 13. HE IS RETURNING A 1976 VISIT
OF THE CARDINAL PATRIARCH TO THE U.S.)
(A) POINTS LIKELY TO BE RAISED:
-- THE U.S. SHOULD MAKE SPECIAL PROVISIONS TO ACCEPT
MORE PORTUGUESE EMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES FROM THE FORMER
AFRICAN COLONIES.
-- U.S. ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED TO START SCHOOLS OF PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION AND SOCIAL COMMUNICATIONS AT LISBON'S
CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY.
(B) POINTS TO RAISE:
PORTUGAL CURRENTLYUSES ONLY 12,000 OF ITS 20,000
EMIGRATION LIMITATION. AN INTENSIVE EFFORT BY PRIVATE U.S.
AGENCIES TO FIND JOBS OUTSIDE TRADITIONAL AREAS OF EMIGRATION.
COULD INCREASE THE FLOW OF EMIGRANTS. THE CHURCH CAN HELP
IN THIS EFFORT.
-- THE CATHOLIC CHURCH HAS PLAYED A VITAL ROLE IN THE

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EVOLUTION TOWARD DEMOCRACY IN PORTUGAL.
-- WE WOULD BE PLEASED TO COOPERATE WITH THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY IN PROJECTS ENDORSED BY THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT.

5. CARDINAL MEDEIROS:
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(A) POINTS LIKELY TO BE RAISED:
-- THE U.S. SHOULD MAKE SPECIAL PROVISIONS TO ACCEPT MORE PORTUGUESE AND REFUGEE EMIGRANTS.
-- THE USG SHOULD SEEK TO DIRECT BADLY NEEDED DEVELOPMENT FUNDS TO THE AZORES.
(B) POINTS TO RAISE:
-- YOU HAVE PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN HELPING THE U.S. PORTUGUESE COMMUNITY UNDERSTAND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN PORTUGAL.
-- PORTUGAL CURRENTLY USES ONLY 12,000 OF ITS 20,000 EMIGRATION LIMITATION. THE CONGRESS IS RELUCTANT TO OPEN THE "PANDORA'S BOX" OF SPECIAL NATIONAL PREFERENCES. THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC CONFERENCE AND OTHER VOLUNTARY AGENCIES COULD BE HELPFUL IN OBTAINING LABOR CERTIFICATIONS.

6. SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LEADER SA CARNEIRO: (NOTE: SA CARNEIRO WILL HAVE JUST RETURNED FROM THE UNITED STATES, WHERE HE UNDERWENT MEDICAL TREATMENT AND ADDRESSED THE COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS.)
(A) POINTS LIKELY TO BE RAISED:
-- THE USG MUST PLAY A MORE AGGRESSIVE ROLE IN EAST-WEST RELATIONS, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA, WHERE SOVIET EXPANSIONISM IS MANIFEST AND GROWING.
-- THE SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT IS TOO NARROWLY BASED AND LACKS TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC EXPERTISE. AN UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE PS AND PSD WOULD ASSURE AN ASSEMBLY MAJORITY, BUT SOARES HAS CONSISTENTLY REJECTED THIS OPTION.
(B) POINTS TO RAISE:
-- THE ROLE OF A DEMOCRATIC OPPOSITION IS A THANKLESS TASK; THE PSD HAS PERFORMED ADMIRABLY.

7. CENTER DEMOCRATIC LEADER FREITAS DO AMARAL:
(A) POINTS LIKELY TO BE RAISED:
-- THE CDS DIFFERS WITH GOVERNMENT ON ECONOMIC AND OTHER ISSUES, BUT HAS AND WILL CONTINUETO SUPPORT IT IN THE LEGISLATURE SO LONG AS THE CDS IS CONSULTED.
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-- THE PORTUGUESE RIGHT IS A GROWING DANGER.

(B) POINTS TO RAISE: (NOTE: FREITAS DO AMARAL IS EXPECTED TO ASSUME THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM IN THE NEAR FUTURE.)

-- AS IN THE U.S., ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM IS BADLY NEEDED; BUREAUCRATIC INEFFICIENCY HAS BEEN MAJOR OBSTACLE TO EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT THE WORLD OVER.

WHAT ARE PROSPECTS IN PORTUGAL?

-- THE CDS WAS THE ONLY PARTY IN THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY TO WITHHOLD ITS APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 1975 CONSTITUTION; WHAT IS THE PARTY'S CURRENT VIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION?

-- WHAT ARE PROSPECTS FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY?

8. LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT VASCO DA GAMA FERNANDES:

(A) POINTS LIKELY TO BE RAISED:

-- ALTHOUGH THE ASSEMBLY WAS INITIALLY CRITICIZED FOR INEFFICIENCY, IT IS FINALLY BEGINNING TO HIT ITS STRIDE. CURRENTLY BEFORE IT ARE GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS OF CRITICAL IMPORTANCE. THESE MUST NOT LANGUISH IN THE ASSEMBLY.

(B) POINTS TO RAISE:

-- PORTUGAL'S RECORD ON HUMAN RIGHTS IS EXEMPLARY, AS IS YOUR OWN. WE LOOK FORWARD TO CLOSE COLLABORATION ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE.

-- AS VICE PRESIDENT OF THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY, YOU WERE INTIMATELY INVOLVED IN DRAFTING OF THE CONSTITUTION. HOW HAS THE DOCUMENT STOOD UP?

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